Nieuwsbrief LOS 12-25, 5 december 2022



NEWS LETTER, volume 12 nr 25 5 December 2022

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14 UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS: LEGALISE FORMER DUTCH CITIZENS FROM SURINAM

The professors write:

'Several letters and media coverage have asked attention for the problems concerning former Dutch citizens from Surinam who have been living in the Netherlands for a long time without residence permit... With this letter we want to express our support for this appeal to provide with legal residence status these former Dutch citizens, whose number is limited and who evidently have historic ties with the Netherlands. For this purpose, we do two very concrete proposals: 1) a regulation for former Dutch citizens from Surinam who have been living here for a considerable time and 2) the reintroduction of extended family reunification for Dutch citizens with care-dependent former Dutch citizens from Surinam...

The Netherlands seems to have forgotten that it still has contractual relations with Surinam; the purpose of these contractual relations is to 'express the special historic ties between both countries with respect to the residence of each of their citizens on each other's territory.'

You will find more information <u>here</u>.

BASIC RIGHTS

Legislative proposal: childcare allowance also possible for partner outside of the EU

The Ministry of Social Affairs has submitted a legislative proposal to extend childcare allowance to couples of whom one of the partners lives abroad. The reason for this proposal is the situation of Ukrainian women in the Netherlands. However, if the proposal is passed, it will apply to other couples as well. You will find more information <u>here</u>.

ADMISSION POLICY

<u>Court of Appeal: Russia is a vast country; in cases of domestic violence the woman concerned can take up</u> <u>residence elsewhere</u>

This judgment pertains to a female Russian asylum seeker who stated that in Russia the authorities did not protect her from domestic violence nor from her ex-husband. According to the Court Russia is a vast country and the situation in big cities such as Moscow is safe. You will find more information <u>here</u>.

<u>CRC:</u> Convention on the Rights of the Child prohibits sending back Indian woman who fell victim to domestic violence

This case concerned an Indian woman with an under-age daughter who had applied for asylum in Denmark because of domestic violence that took place in Denmark. Denmark stated that she would be protected from domestic violence in India.

According to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in this case every possible risk needs to be taken into account; this also applies to cases in which the threat does not originate from the state but from an individual. The Committee is of the opinion that there is discrimination against women and girls in India. Denmark had not put the interests of the child first, as they should have done. In the end Denmark provided the mother and her daughter with residence status. You will find more information <u>here</u>.

<u>Court of Appeal: exemption civic integration requirement for residence with refugee in the Netherlands;</u> <u>consider requirement authorisation for temporary stay</u>

This judgment shows that in case of an application for residence with a partner with refugee status in the Netherlands, there is no requirement of civic integration nor an income requirement. The foreign partner already had residence in Italy. The Court is of the opinion that the IND should motivate more thoroughly why she still needs an authorisation for temporary stay. You will find more information <u>here</u>.

Informational message: no revocation status as child with parent when the child goes to live on his own This informational message makes it clear that residence permits of adolescents with permits to stay with their parents, in practice are not revoked when these children start living on their own, even though, formally speaking, it would be possible to revoke their permit. You will find more information <u>here</u>.

CHECK AND DETENTION

Secretary of State Justice and Security: no corona test required for travels within the EU and to Morocco

The Secretary of State has announced that no corona tests are required for travels within the EU and to certain countries outside of the EU such as Morocco. This means refusing a corona test no longer puts a halt to eviction. You will find more information <u>here</u>.

ACTIVITIES

GGD Amsterdam: Videos Vaccination Undocumented migrants, several languages

Our <u>interactive video</u> about corona vaccination for undocumented migrants is available in 8 languages: Polish, Ukrainian, Spanish, Tigrinya, Turkish, Arabic, English, Dutch.

<u>Meeting: the legal status of women with residence rights of dependents, 9 December 11:30-14:00u Rotterdam</u> At this meeting we will share the conclusions of the investigation: 'Be patient; the meaning of the residence rights of dependents in the daily life of marriage migrants and their partners.' Subsequently we will discuss the consequences of the conclusions of the investigation for you yourself and for your organisation, for cooperation in the city and for (local/national) policy.

Where: Daria, Gerard Scholtenstraat 129, 3035 SJ Rotterdam. Registration: zelfbeschikking.verblijfsrecht@gmail.com

PICUM: Unconditional Access to Services for Undocumented Victims of Crime

The position of legal and social marginalisation that undocumented people find themselves in means that they have specific needs when they fall victim to a crime. The legal frameworks in place to offer support to all victims of crime exist. Moving forward, the objective will be to implement safeguards for people with irregular migration status. This will allow them to meaningfully enjoy and exercise their rights as victims and human beings as well as to allow them to rebuild their lives.

Young migrants' groups launch new European umbrella organisation Voicify

End of November, youth groups with lived experience of migration launched the first-ever European umbrella organisation <u>Voicify</u> at an event in the European Parliament. Their stated objective is to foster political participation of young refugees, exiled, migrants, asylum seekers and undocumented people to shape policies that affect them. The network currently comprises more than 30 organisations led by young people with lived migration experiences.

Aditus: Mapping of Migrant and Refugee Led Organisations

The perception of refugees as solely passive receivers of humanitarian aid or different integration measures is changing as the result of growing activities and advocacy of migrant and refugee-led CSOs (like SYVNL in the Netherlands and GFR in Greece). Migrant activism manifests in different ways, through different cultural activities aimed at promotion of intercultural dialogue and cultural visibility, but also through political and policy advocacy that refugee and migrant groups try to assert in the political arena.

UNHCR: call for mapping of refugee-led organisations

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) is conducting a mapping of organisations led by refugees, asylum seekers, returnees, internally displaced people, and stateless persons to find out more about the needs of the communities they come from. This will help UNCHR to work with such organisations at the global, regional and national levels to ensure their participation in conversations and decisions.

Founded in 2003, the LOS national foundation for undocumented migrants (Landelijk Ongedocumenteerden Steunpunt) is the knowledge centre for people and organisations providing assistance to undocumented migrants. The LOS foundation is devoted to the basic rights of these migrants and their children.